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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,494	09/12/2003	Tetsuya Usui	Q77273	6349

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SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

WALSH, JOHN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2151

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/27/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,494

Applicant(s)

USUI, TETSUYA

Examiner

John B. Walsh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/12/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2 recites “control means prohibits reference or editing”. This limitation contradicts the limitation of claim 1 reciting “control means...permitting...to be referred to or edited”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. App. Pub. US 2004/0066900 to Motoki.

As concerns claim 1, a medical image photographing management terminal comprising: input means (figure 2, 12) to be used, when carrying out photographing for a purpose of diagnosis, for inputting ID information (figure 7) including at least one of information about a patient as an object and information about the photographing; storage means (figure 2; 16, 17)

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for storing information; and control means (11) for controlling writing of the ID information inputted by using said input means into said storage means and reading of the ID information from said storage means, and permitting (figure 1; via network N) the ID information stored in said storage means to be referred to or edited from another medical image photographing management terminal (figure 1; 2; 0034) in response to a request from the another medical image photographing management terminal.

As best understood concerning claim 2, the medical image photographing management terminal according to claim 1, wherein said control means prohibits reference or editing of the ID information from another medical image photographing management terminal with respect to a series of photographing being carried out by using the medical image photographing management terminal (0059; security; userID required).

As concerns claim 3, a medical image photographing management terminal comprising: input means (figure 2, 12) to be used, when carrying out photographing for a purpose of diagnosis, for inputting ID information including at least one of information about a patient as an object and information about the photographing; storage means (figure 2; 16, 17) for storing information; and control means (11) for controlling writing of the ID information inputted by using said input means into said storage means and reading of the ID information from said storage means, and transmitting the ID information stored in said storage means to another medical image photographing management terminal and deleting (0051-temporary) the ID information stored in said storage means in response to a request from the another medical image photographing management terminal.

As concerns claim 4, a medical image photographing system in which photographing is carried out for a purpose of diagnosis on the basis of ID information including at least one of information about a patient as an object and information about the photographing, said system comprising: a plurality of medical image photographing apparatuses (figure 1; 3,4) to be used for carrying out the photographing for the purpose of diagnosis; and a plurality of medical image photographing management terminals (figure 1; 1, 2) including a first medical image photographing management terminal corresponding to a first medical image photographing apparatus and a second medical image photographing management terminal corresponding to a second medical image photographing apparatus, each of said plurality of medical image photographing management terminals including control means (11) for permitting the ID information managed by said first medical image photographing management terminal to be used in said second medical image photographing management terminal in a case where the photographing is carried out by using said second medical image photographing apparatus and said second medical image photographing management terminal on the basis of the ID information inputted by using said first medical image photographing management terminal (figure 1; via network N).

As concerns claim 5, the medical image photographing system according to claim 4, wherein: said second medical image photographing management terminal transmits to said first medical image photographing management terminal a request for reference or editing (0059) of the ID information managed by said first medical image photographing management terminal; and said first medical image photographing management terminal permits (figure 1; via network N) the ID information stored in storage means (figure 2; 16, 17) of said first medical image

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photographing management terminal to be referred to or edited (figure 1; via network N) from said second medical image photographing management terminal in response to the request from said second medical image photographing apparatus.

As concerns claim 6, the medical image photographing system according to claim 4, wherein: said second medical image photographing management terminal transmits to said first medical image photographing management terminal a request (0059) for the ID information managed by said first medical image photographing management terminal; and said first medical image photographing management terminal transmits (figure 1; via network N) the ID information stored in storage means of said first medical image photographing management terminal to said second medical image photographing management terminal and deletes (0051) the ID information stored in said storage means in response to the request from said second medical image photographing management terminal.

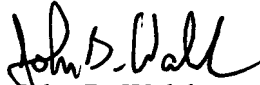
Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Walsh whose telephone number is 571-272-7063. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on 571-272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information

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Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


John B. Walsh
Primary Examiner
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